

Illinois Beef Association

Representing Cattlemen. Driving Beef Demand.

August 17, 2016

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Dr. David Tawei Lee
Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2 Kaitakelan Blvd. Taipei, 10048
Taiwan, R.O.C.

The Illinois Beef Association (IBA) welcomes this opportunity contact you regarding the high quality beef we raise in Illinois in the hopes that your discussions with my friend Congressman Randy Hultgren lead to a decision to bring more of this wholesome product to Taiwan.

On my farm in DeKalb, Illinois our family finishes beef cattle using feeds we raise in addition to some ingredients we purchase like distillers grains. We also grow corn, soybeans, and wheat. The model for our farm is very attractive as we plant and harvest much of our own feed and recycle the liquid waste from our feed lot as natural fertilizer and soil amendment to improve the next year's crop. This cycle of one part of our farm benefitting the other is very sustainable and it also results in extremely high quality beef.

The great news is that our family's farm is not unique in this respect. In fact, many cattlemen in Illinois operate very similar to us. This practice of feeding high quality rations to the high quality cattle we raise has earned Illinois a long-standing reputation as a producer of great tasting, safe, nutritious beef.

I'd invite you to travel here to my farm with Congressman Hultgren to see just the type of quality this letter describes. We would love to be your host as this conversation continues. My cattle are harvested at two modern beef packing facilities in Illinois, both of which would be interested in hosting you as well to show you their facilities. Both of these businesses in Illinois do export high quality beef overseas.

Thank you again for meeting with my friend Congressman Randy Hultgren to discuss the many ways the Illinois agriculture community could help serve Taiwan. We welcome an ongoing effort to bring more high quality Illinois raised beef to your consumers in Taiwan.

Sincerely,



Mike Martz
Illinois Beef Association President
DeKalb, IL



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